

A.—Sri MOHAMED ALI (Minister for Transport and Tourism).—

(a) The service on Bidar-Nittur *via* Ahmedabad has been started with effect from 23rd May 1967. The operation of service on Bhalki-Nittur *via* Ahmedabad will be commenced soon after the permit is granted for which an application has been made on 2nd June 1967.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a).

(c) Please see reply to (a).

Lifting the Orders of Levy on Foodgrains

***Q.—444. Sri B. R. PATIL (Hangal).—**

Will the Minister for Food and Civil Supplies be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Government is prepared to lift orders of levy on paddy, jowar, ragi, etc., to help the Growers;

(b) whether Government is aware that the present levy orders beset with corruption and adversely affecting the Grow More Food mentality;

(c) whether Government is prepared to purchase required foodgrains in open market from the Growers and to supply the same to consumers at reasonable rates compensating the difference by making over subsidies, etc., towards such loss;

(d) whether Government is prepared to purchase foodgrains through Barter system, *i.e.*, exchange of Jowar and Wheat for paddy and ragi and *vice versa*, at reasonable rates, *i.e.*, rates in between the levy rates and market rates fixed for each of the foodgrains?

A.—Sri B. D. JATTI (Minister for Food and Civil Supplies).—

(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) A scheme for open market purchase is also in operation. Sale is not however, subsidised.

(d) No.

Sale of Jowar Bags through Societies

***Q.—671. Sri K. P. NADA GOUDA (Mudhol).—**

Will the Minister for Food and Civil Supplies be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the Revenue Officers are compelling to sell through Societies the jowar bags and head loads of jowar brought by producers, grocers and labourers to the bazaars of Mudhol and Mahalingapur without making any distinction among them;